

ONE MAN'S OPINIONS

BY N. D. COCHRAN

Safety First.—What a great relief it must be to a soldier who has gone to war to fight, bleed and die for his country to be captured by the enemy.

His life is no longer in danger; he gets all he wants to eat and a place to sleep where the shrapnel and bullets don't threaten.

Of course, there isn't much glory in being a prisoner of war. Out on the battle front a man can swap a leg, an arm, a lung or his life for whole gobs of glory, but the prisoner of war will go back home after it's all over and live happily ever after.

If the privates in those warring armies knew what was good for them they would hurry up and surrender and the joke would be on the other fellows who captured them.

There is nothing heroic about being a prisoner of war, but it has many advantages over being a hero. The poet said that a hero's fate was "A dose of cold lead shot into his head,

And his name spelled wrong in the papers."

Uncle Sam's War Tax.—Last year Uncle Sam had a bonanza wheat crop. We raised enough for all our people, and to spare. If the law of supply and demand were given play only in this country, wheat, flour and bread would be cheap. But there is a big war in Europe. Thousands upon thousands of farmers in various war-stricken countries have left the fertile fields and gone to war with guns to reap a harvest of death.

So there is a demand for wheat and flour from OUR country, where the farmers are not at war. And this European demand has sent the price of wheat, and along with it the price of flour, soaring out of sight. Already there is talk of a smaller loaf of bread, or a rise in the price. They are talking now a 6-cent loaf. We

are even advised to eat stale bread, so as to save the waste.

What it really means, however, is that because of the European war we Americans will have to submit to a war tax on bread.

Simply because Europe will pay more for our wheat we must pay more. We must meet the European countries in the open market of the world and compete with them, for the wheat raised in this country.

And thousands upon thousands of our own people will starve because they can't get work and can't buy bread.

The farmers who raised the wheat won't get much of the increase. Much of the wheat has passed from their hands. The middlemen will get the increase, the war tax — along with the grain gamblers.

Any way you figure it out, the working classes of this country and the rest of the world get the worst of it.

What fools these mortals be.

LETTERS TO EDITOR

THE JOBLESS PROBLEM

Editor Day Book.—May I ask for a space in your paper in which to print a few reflections which I have seen in several newspapers concerning "charity."

There was a great deal of comment about the good deeds that were done toward poor people about Xmas time. In reality, how much does it amount to when the bottom is reached. Apparently nothing; not even worth the paper upon which it is printed.

I have seen in the papers that our worthy mayor and councilmen have stuck their heads together and discussed some way of giving workless laborers work, but it apparently amounted to nothing, for if they had been sincere about it why then didn't they stop to discuss the topic last summer, so that when winter came they could give work to some of the